

HEALTH DEPARTMENT POLICY

Subject:

Contamination of Pools From Feces & Vomitus

Issue Date:

April 27, 1999

Approved by:

, Managing Director of Health Garland Health Department

, Director of Health

Garland Health Department

Environmental Health Manager Garland Health Department

Policy:

- 1. Close the pool and remove all bathers from the swimming pool or spa. Notify the City of Garland Health Department at (972) 205-3460. If you have multiple pools that use the same filtration system, all of the pools must be closed and hyperchlorinated. Do not allow anyone to enter the pool(s) until hyperchlorination is complete.
- 2. Remove as much of the feces and vomitus as possible. Use of leaf catchers or leaf rakes is helpful.
- 3. Do not backwash the filter system. If vacuumed, waste should be directed to a sanitary sewer and not through the filtration system.
- 4. Small material that is floating on the surface and cannot be removed by use of leaf catchers or leaf rakes should be pushed towards the overflow or skimmers until all visible material is removed.
- 5. Achieve a concentration time inactivation value (Ct) of 15,300. The Ct refers to the concentration of free chlorine in parts per million (ppm) multiplied by time in minutes at a specific pH and temperature (see #6).
- 6. The pool water must be maintained at pH 7.5 or less, the temperature 77°F or higher, and cyanuric acid level must be 50 ppm or lower.
- 7. Backwash the filter thoroughly after the CT value has been achieved and the free available chlorine level has returned to the normal operating range. The use of sodium thiosulfate may be needed to lower the chlorine concentration. Do not return the backwash through the filter. Where appropriate, replace the filter media.

**To prevent potential problems, many operators discourage pool use by infants who are not "potty trained." Operators must ensure that when infants are using the pool (or any persons who lack control of urine or fecal discharges from the body) that they wear tight fitting impervious liners (such as tight fitting plastic pants) around diapers to prevent accidental discharge of contamination into the pools.

Revision Date:

1-14-2002

3-10-2008

2-19-2013